

REMARKS

This Response is filed in reply to the Office Action dated April 29, 2003, which is an Election/Restriction. The issues of the April 29, 2003 Office Action are presented below with reference to the Office Action.

With regard to the Office Action, paragraph 1: Examiner provides six (6) inventions as follows:

Group I, claims 1-7;

Group II, claims 8-13;

Group III, claims 14-15;

Group IV, claims 16-18;

Group V, claims 19-24; and,

Group VI, claims 25-28.

In Response, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-7, and provisionally withdraw claims 8-28. It is respectfully submitted that examination of all claims simultaneously would place no undue burden on the Examiner, as examination of the claims of Groups II-VI necessarily entail a search of the subject matter of Group I. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the examination of Groups I-VI together present no significant burden over the examination of Group I alone, as all groups include features that include cement production.

As Examiner knows, for a restriction requirement to be valid, the Examiner must establish that the search and examination of the entire application cannot be made without serious burden (see MPEP §803). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request examination of all claims simultaneously.

With regard to the Office Action, paragraph 2: Applicants thank the Examiner for the renumbering of the claims.

With regard to the Office Action, paragraph 3-6: Applicants provisionally elect Group I, with traverse, as provided herein, and acknowledge Examiner's comments regarding inventorship.

Conclusion

Applicants consider the Response herein to be fully responsive to the referenced Office Action. Based on the above Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance is requested. If there are any remaining issues or the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at 617-832-1241.

Respectfully submitted,



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